

**Fact Sheet**  
**August 2002**

# Public Comment Period on Draft Remedial Action Workplan for Tosco Site



**BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA**

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Boards and  
Departments within  
the California  
Environmental  
Protection Agency.  
The Department's  
mission is to restore,  
protect and enhance  
the environment,  
to ensure public health,  
environmental  
quality and  
economic vitality,  
by regulating  
hazardous waste,  
conducting and  
overseeing  
cleanups, and  
developing  
and promoting  
pollution prevention.*

**State of California**



**California  
Environmental  
Protection Agency**



## Introduction

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is requesting public comment on the Draft Remedial Action Workplan (RAW) and the California Quality Act (CEQA) proposed Negative Declaration for the Tosco site (Site) located in Bakersfield, California. The Draft RAW describes proposed cleanup of soil containing petroleum coke. This fact sheet contains information concerning the public comment period, Site background, the Draft RAW, the proposed Negative Declaration, information repositories, DTSC contacts, and mailing list information.

## Public Involvement

The public comment period begins on Friday, August 9, 2002, and ends on Saturday, September 7, 2002. Written comments should postmarked by Friday, September 7, 2002 sent to:

Albert Fujitsuho, Project Manager  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
1515 Tollhouse Road  
Clovis, California 93611  
afujitsu@dtsc.ca.gov

The Draft RAW and other Site related documents are available for public review at the following information repositories:

Beale Library  
701 Truxton Street  
Bakersfield, California 93301  
Contact: John Walden (661) 868-0775

Department of Toxic Substances Control, File Room  
1515 Tollhouse Road  
Clovis, California 93611  
Contact: Barbara Doehring (559) 297-3905

*The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website at [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov).*

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## Site Background

The Site is located on the southeastern portion of a 30-acre parcel, approximately 75 feet north of the Kern River in Bakersfield, California. From approximately 1964 to 1987, the Site was used by various companies, including Tosco, as a petroleum coke storage and production facility. Petroleum coke is a by-product of the petroleum refinery process. Since then, the Site has remained vacant and unused. Manufacturing processes used in the past resulted in piles of excess petroleum coke being left on the surface of the Site. With oversight from DTSC, the Tosco company will clean up the Site in accordance with an approved RAW.

## Draft RAW

The Draft RAW proposes the following: upgrading an existing rail spur so that materials can be transported to and from the Site via railway, mobilizing equipment, establishing a field office, and conducting a wildlife survey to insure no “taking” of endangered species.

Once these activities have been completed, separation and screening of approximately 80,000 tons of petroleum coke will occur. Large pieces of debris, such as concrete, trash, and asphalt, will first be removed. After this preliminary separation, the petroleum coke will pass under a powerful magnet to remove any remaining unwanted metal. The final outcome of separation and screening will be petroleum coke that is usable as a fuel source. The useable petroleum coke will be transported via rail to Chemical Lime, a limestone quarry and lime product plant in Peach Springs, Arizona.

Petroleum coke not suitable for use as a fuel source will remain on Site for characterization, management, and eventual offsite disposal in accordance with DTSC approved workplans developed specifically for these activities. Additionally, debris collected during the segregation and separation process will be characterized, managed, and disposed of offsite in accordance with all applicable

local, state, and federal requirements.

After removal activities are completed, front-end loaders and graders will return the area to its original surface grade. Should any unnatural depressions remain after surface regrading, clean fill will be used to backfill those areas.

The final step in the project will be removal of utility services, sanitation equipment, the field office, rail cars, and equipment used during the cleanup process. Dust control measures will be implemented during handling of material and loading operations. Water runoff from dust suppression activities is anticipated to infiltrate naturally into Site soils with little or no runoff. However, a temporary stormwater control berm (consisting of staked hay bales) will be placed south of the stockpile, approximately 25 feet north of the Kern River, to ensure that any unexpected water runoff does not go beyond Site boundaries.

## California Environmental Quality Act

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is a statute that requires state and local agencies to identify the significant environmental impacts of their actions and to avoid or mitigate those impacts, if feasible. In accordance with CEQA, DTSC has determined that the proposed removal action poses no significant impacts and is therefore eligible for a Negative Declaration.

## More Information

If you have any questions or would like additional information please contact:

Albert Fujitsubo, Project Manager  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
1515 Tollhouse Road  
Clovis, California 93611  
(559) 297-3949  
[afujitsu@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:afujitsu@dtsc.ca.gov)

or

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Randy Sturgeon, Public Participation Specialist  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, California 95826-3200  
rsturgeo@dtsc.ca.gov  
(916) 255-3649

## Media Contact

Ron Baker,  
(916) 324-3142  
Public Information Branch Chief  
P.O. Box 806  
Sacramento, CA

## Hearing Impaired

TDD users can obtain additional information about the Tosco Site by using the California State Relay Service 1-888-877-5378 and requesting to contact Randy Sturgeon at (916) 255-3649.

### Mailing List Coupon

If you have any comments concerning the Tosco Site or if you would like to be put on the Site specific mailing list, please take a moment to fill out the information below and mail it to Randy Sturgeon, DTSC, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California, 95826-3200. DTSC mailings lists are solely for the purpose of keeping persons informed of DTSC activities. Mailing lists are not routinely released to outside parties. However, they are considered public records, and, if requested, may be subject to release.

**Name:**

**Address:**

**City, State, Zip Code**

**Phone Number:**

**Fax Number:**